Minimum Agricultural Wages

51. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have not yet fixed the minimum agricultural wages as per the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural labour;

(b) whether the Central Government had been persuading the State Governments to accept the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour and fix the minimum wages;

(c) if so, how many States have not so far implemented the recommendations;

(d) what is the minimum wages fixed by the National Commission on Rural Labour;

(e) what is the date earmarked for the implementation of the minimum wages; and

(f) what are the reasons given by the State Governments for not accepting these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (f) A Statement indicating the minimum rates of wages for lowest paid unskilled category of agricultural workers in different States/Union Territory Administrations, as available with the Government, is annexed (See below)

The National Commission on Rural Labour in its report submitted in July, 1991 recommended that the minimum rate of wages for agricultural workers should not be fixed below Rs. 20/- per day.

The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 provides that the appropriate Government shall revise the minimum rate of wages at such intervals at it hink fit; such intervals not exceeding five years. At the 26th Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held on 19th July, 1975, it was agreed that where variable dearness allowance was not a component in the minimum wages, the states should revise the minimum wages within a period of two years. At the 31st Session of Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1980, it was decided that minimum rates of wages may be reviewed; if necessary; within a period not exceeding two years or on a rise of 50 points in the consumer price index, whichever is earlier.

The Central Government had been advising State Governments from time to time to revise the minimum wages in accordance with the recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour. This has also been discussed in several fora including Indian Labour Conference and Labour Ministers' Conference.

The reasons for non-implementation of recommendations in respect of minimum wages by State Governments varies from State to State. This includes weak socio-economic conditions, existence of parallel schemes like Employment Assurance Scheme, pending litigations, etc.

Statement

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Minimum wages for agricultural workers
(1)	(2)	(3)
A.	*State Government*	
1	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 16.80 to Rs. 23.40 per day (According to Zones) 8-4-91
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 18.00 to Rs. 21.00 per day (According to Areas) 1-11-90
3	Assam	Rs. 1134.00 p. m. or Rs. 984.00 p.m. plus food, Shelter and clothing 1-2-92
4	Bihar	Rs. 21.00 per day 16-10-90
5	Goa	Rs. 27.51 per day 5-2-92
6	Gujarat	Rs. 15.00 per day 1-8-91
7	Haryana	Rs. 17.13 with meals or Rs. 1.13 without meals 1-1-93
8	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 14.00 per day 16-1-90
9	Jammu and Kashmir	Rs. 15.00 per day 24-3-89
10	Karnataka	Rs. 12.00 to Rs. 17.65 per day 12-7-88
11	Kerala	Rs. 30.00 to Rs. 40.20 per day 11-3-92
12	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 28.17 per day 4-10-91
13	Maharashtra	Rs. 14.00 to 20.00 per day (According to Zones) 5.88
14	Manipur	Rs. 6.70 per day for Hill areas & Rs. 18.70 per day for other than Hill areas 1-12-88
15	Meghalaya	Rs. 35.00 per day 16-4-94
16	Mizoram	Rs. 28.00 per day 1-11-87
17	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 per day (6-7-92)

(1)	(2)	(3)
18	Orissa	Rs. 25 00 per day (1-7-90)
19	Punjab	Rs. 42 12 without meal or Rs.38 12 with meals per day. (1-3-92)
20	Rajasthan	Rs. 22.00 per day (2-7-90)
21	Sikkim	The Minimum Wages Act., 1948 is yet to be extended.
22	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 20 .00 per day (6-4-93)
23	Tripura	Rs. 23.65 per d. (20-12-93)
24	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 23.00 per day to Rs. 25 00 per day (7-1-92)
25	West Bengal	Rs. 32.72 per day Rs. 29 52 per day plus two principle meals. (1-7-93)
26	Andaman & Nicobar	Rs. 27.00 per day (Andaman) Rs. 28.00 per day (Nicobar) (13-8-92)
27	Chandigarh	Rs. 36.43 per day with meal or Rs. 40.23 per day without meal (1-3-92)
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 20.00 per day (15-12-92)
29	Delhi	Rs. 53.15 per day (1-2-94)
30	Daman & Diu	Rs. 22.00 per day (19-3-93)
31	Lakshadweep	Rs. 30.00 per day (1-1-93)
32.	*Pondicherry*	
	(i) Pondicherry Region	Rs. 14.00 per day (15-12-89)
	(ii) Maha Region	Rs. 12.00 per day for light work (18-2-87)
		Rs. 15.00 per day for hard work. (18-2-87)
	(iii) Yanam Region	Rs. 11.00 per day (15-3-88)
	(iv) Karaikil	Rs. 14.00 per day or 7 litre paddy plu Rs. 4.90 per day. (31-1-90)
	Central Government	Rs. 38.47 (1-4-94)